

The Honorable Michael K. Powell  
Chairman  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12th Street, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Chairman Powell:

I am writing to you today as a current satellite TV subscriber who would like to add my voice of dissent to the pending merger of EchoStar and DIRECTV. The combination of these two satellite providers will NOT provide numerous benefits to consumers like me, but will provide a void of competition leading inevitably to higher prices.

Local TV is a big 'selling point' of their proposed merger. Bunk. Local channels are already available (via antenna). The high-speed Internet service by satellite they promise will be an extra cost to their already high tv prices. These so called 'tremendous benefits to consumers' can happen without the merger. I do not believe that 'satellite-delivered Internet service will bring an affordable and competitive alternative to cable modems and DSL to consumers in big cities, small towns and rural areas alike'. Why don't they tell us how much this service will cost?

In the interest of maintaining competition in the satellite industry and avoiding a consumer rip off, I urge you to NOT support to this merger.

Sincerely,

Stephen Wood  
102 Skyland  
Tijeras, NM 87059